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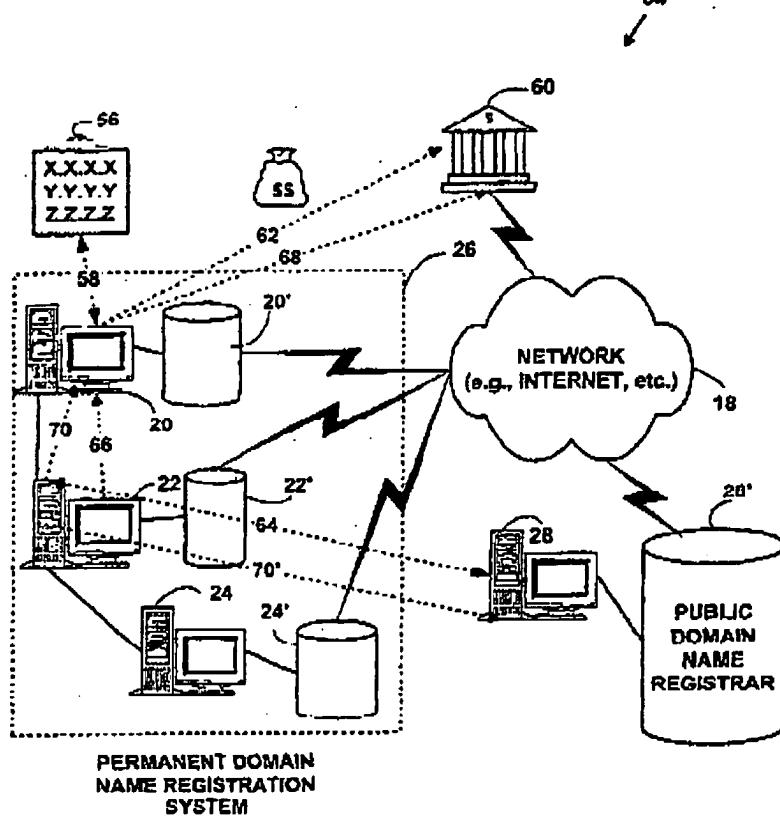
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROTECTING DOMAIN NAMES



(57) Abstract: A method and system for protecting domain names. A permanent registration certificate for providing a permanent registration of a domain name can be issued. The permanent registration certificate provides a permanent registration of a domain name including perpetually determining, paying and verifying current and future renewal fees for the domain name at a public domain name registrar. A permanent web-site accessible via the Internet and associated with a domain name registration from an issued permanent registration certificate is perpetually hosted. The method and system help prevent a domain name owner from ever losing valuable domain name rights, reduce the burden and administrative overhead placed on domain name owners and more fully utilize existing and new rights associated with a domain name registration.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04L29/12 G06F17/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 817 444 A (SUN MICROSYSTEMS INC) 7 January 1998 (1998-01-07) abstract column 1, line 3 -column 5, line 1 column 5, line 57 -column 6, line 45 column 8, line 30-53 figures 3,6 -----	25-29

Further inventions are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/USA/ 210**Continuation of Box I.1****Claims Nos.: 1-24,30-33**

The claims relate to subject matter for which no search is required according to Rule 39 PCT. Given that the claims are formulated in terms of such subject matter or merely specify commonplace features relating to its technological implementation, the search examiner could not establish any technical problem which might potentially have required an inventive step to overcome. Hence it was not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art (Art. 17(2)(a)(i) and (11) PCT; see Guidelines Part B Chapter VIII, 1-6).

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0817444	A 07-01-1998	US 6154777 A	EP 0817444 A2	28-11-2000 07-01-1998

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 1982)

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